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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FWS ISSUES NEW CIRCULAR ON DUCK STAMPS AND WILDLIFE REFUGES

How the Fish and Wildlife Service has used the revenue it receives annually from the sale of migratory bird hunting stamps for the purchase and development of land for waterfowl refuges is described in a new publication issued today entitled "Duck Stamps and Wildlife Refuges."

Authored by John L. Farley, Service Director, the circular is taken largely from a report by the Director to the Subcommittee on Public Lands of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. This report has been prepared to answer the many inquiries which the Service receives about the use of duck stamp funds.

The new booklet traces the history of national wildlife refuges from the establishment of the first national bird reservation in Florida in 1903 up to the present time. Subjects covered include the waterfowl "depression" of the early 1930's, the demand for legislation which brought the duck stamps into existence through the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act in 1934, the beginning of the national waterfowl restoration program in that same year, the availability of emergency funds to get the program started, the important part played by duck stamp revenues in the acquisition and development of waterfowl refuges, the annual revenue from the stamps, and the future needs of waterfowl in this country.

Numerous illustrations are used in the booklet to point up various phases of refuge development made possible by duck stamp funds.

A Federal duck stamp, in addition to a State hunting license, is required of every individual over 16 years of age who hunts waterfowl. These stamps cost \$2.

In fiscal year 1955, a total of 2,181,566 stamps was sold to produce a revenue of \$4,363,132 for the Service to use in supplementing other appropriated funds for the purchase, development, administration, and maintenance of waterfowl refuges throughout the country.

"Duck Stamps and Wildlife Refuges," Circular 37, is available by purchase from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at a price of 20 cents per copy.

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